



**MILDENHALL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# **Annual Report**

**of the**

# **Medical Officer of Health**

**including the Report of the**

# **Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the year ended 31st December, 1969**

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# Mildenhall Rural District Council.

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## Chairman of the Council

Councillor T. W. Taylor

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## Chairman of the Public Health Committee

Councillor T. S. Baldwin

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## Medical Officer of Health

J. R. M. Murdoch, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Resigned September, 1969  
(Post vacant September - December, 1969)

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## Chief Public Health Inspector

L. McCowey, M.A.P.H.I.

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## Additional Public Health Inspector

J. P. Lynch, M.A.P.H.I.

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To the Chairman and Councillors of  
the Rural District of Mildenhall

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the absence of a full-time medical officer of health I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1969. After a short sojourn with your council and other adjoining areas Dr. Murdoch resigned in September on being promoted to a post in Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely. There has been continued difficulties in being able to replace him because of many factors over which the council as such have little control at the present time. The probable delay over local government and the national health service re-organisation together with recurring troubles over conditions of employment have created an air of uncertainty amongst public health doctors which is affecting morale and recruitment. Accordingly, I have been taking the responsibility of the post and sharing the work which does arise with colleagues in the administrative county.

The birth rate is again higher than that of the country as a whole. It was 19.0 as compared with 16.3 for England and Wales. The death rate was at a low figure of 6.2 as compared with the national figure of 11.1. The total infant mortality deaths, that is to say the number of live born infants who died before their first birthday, was 11 per thousand as compared with 18 for England and Wales. This is a most satisfactory result of the care, medical and social, which is available to the young growing population of the community.

The staff of the public health department and in particular the public health inspector have been most assiduous in their efforts to maintain a high standard of sanitation throughout the area. In addition, my personal thanks are due to your Clerk, Mr. Fred Dannatt for his continued tolerance and encouragement given to me over the years.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. McCracken.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.





SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

General Statistics 1969

Registrar General's estimate of population as at 30.6.69 - 30,610.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

(As supplied by the General Register Office)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	270	259	529
Illegitimate	14	10	24
Total	284	269	553
Live birth rate per 1,000 population			18.1
Corrected birth rate (Comp. factor 1.05)			19.0
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)			16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			4
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	5	1	6
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			11
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths (England & Wales)			13
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	275	260	535
Illegitimate	14	10	24
Total	289	270	559

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<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths recorded during 1969	101	89	190
Death rate per 1,000 population			6.2
Corrected death rate (Comp. factor 1.60)			9.9
Death rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			11.9

INFANT MORTALITY - Deaths of infants under one year of age.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	4	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	11
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births (England & Wales)	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	11
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	--

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births.	7
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EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	7
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PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	18
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MATERNAL MORTALITY

Number of death (including abortion)	NIL
Death rate per 1,000 total live and still births	---

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The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths that occurred during 1969:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	-
Other tuberculosis, incl. late effects	1	-
Meningococcal infection	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	4	3
Malignant neoplasm, larynx	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	-
Leukaemia	2	1
Other Malignant neoplasms	4	4
Diabetes mellitus	1	1
Anaemias	-	2
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2
Hypertensive disease	-	2
Ischaemic heart disease	29	15
Other forms of heart disease.	3	3
Cerebrovascular disease	10	14
Other diseases of circulatory system	6	3
Influenza	-	3
Pneumonia	9	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	-
Asthma	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Carried forward	88	78
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Brought Forward	88	78
Peptic ulcer	1	-
Cirrhosis of liver	-	1
Other diseases of digestive system	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Congenital anomalies	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	3
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-
Motor vehicle accidents	6	1
All other accidents	-	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-
All other external causes	3	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	101	89
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals for 1968	102	72

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## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY SERVICES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem. Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are requested.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July, 1953, have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) HOSPITALS. Of the 553 live births in 1969 to Mildenhall residents 144 took place at the Newmarket General Hospital.

Of the 190 deaths, 95 occurred outside the District (92 in Hospitals).

(e) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics at the following centres in the Mildenhall District.

Beck Row	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday
Brandon	Church Institute	2nd and 4th Tuesday
Lakenheath	Peace Memorial Hall	4th Thursday
Mildenhall	Bunbury Rooms	Every Friday

Outpatients clinics are held at Newmarket General Hospital as shown overleaf.

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NEWMARKET GENERAL HOSPITAL

CLINIC	SPECIALIST	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Anti-Coagulant	Dr. J. H. Dean	Mon Fri	2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D.
Appliances	(Technician)	Mon	10.30 am	O.P.D. Alt. Weeks
Cardiac	Dr. H. A. Fleming	Mon Mon	9.45 am 9.45 am	O.P.D. 3rd Bi-mthly O.P.D. 4th Bi-mthly
Chest	Dr. C. P. Hay	Thur Fri	2.00 pm 11.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. Alt. weeks
Dental (Oral)	Mr. E. W. B. Varley	Weds	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
Dermatology	Dr. S. O. B. Roberts	Tues	9.45 am	O.P.D.
E.N.T.	Mr. K. F. Wilsdon	Mon	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
Geriatric	Dr. W. Davison Dr. D. E. Hyams	Wed Mon	a.m. p.m.	B4 and B.6 B.3
Gynaecological	Mr. J. S. Hesketh (Registrar) (Registrar) Mr. O. Lloyd	Fri Tues Tues Thur Mon	9.30 am 10.00 am 2.00 pm 10.00 am 2.00 pm	O.P.D. (Gynae) A.2 (Obs.) A.2 (Obs.) A.2 (Obs.) O.P.D. Alt. weeks.
Medical	Dr. R. Arden Jones Dr. I. E. Evans	Tues Wed Thur	2.00 pm 2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Neurology	Dr. M. Yealland	Thur	10.00 am	O.P.D.
Ophthalmic	Mr. J. Monckton (Glaucoma cases only)	Tues Fri Mon	2.00 pm 10.00 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. 3rd monthly
Orthopaedic	Mr. E.S. Jamieson Children (Physio. cases only) Mr. R. Magnall	Mon Fri Sat Tues Thur Weds Weds	10.30 am 2.00 pm 10.15 am 2.00 pm 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am	O.F.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. Alt. weeks Plaster Room Physio. (Not 4th) O.P.D. 2nd monthly Physio. 4th monthly
Paediatrics	Dr. D. Gairdner	Weds	9.30 am	O.P.D. (1st and 3rd monthly)
Physl. Medicine	Dr. W. A. Fell	Weds	9.30 am	O.P.D.
Surgical	Mr. R.E.B. Tagart Mr. T.M. Williams	Tues Fri Thur	9.15 am 10.30 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Thoracic Surgery	Mr. B.B. Milstein Mr. C. Parish	Mon Mon	10.00 am 10.00 am	O.P.D. 2nd monthly O.P.D. 4th monthly







SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and other diseases notified during the year:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Measles	46	38
Scarlet Fever	2	9
Meningitis	-	1
Salmonella Typhimurium	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	1
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	49	49
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TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality

NEW CASES

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Pulmonary	1	1	1	1	2	-	2	1	6
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	1

Ages of Cases notified during 1969

Pulmonary - 1 male, 70 years.

Mortality - There were two deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

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TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1. Cases at commencement 1969	4	2	2	-	8
2. First notified during 1969	1	-	-	-	1
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
5. Cases removed from Register	1	-	-	-	1
6. Remaining at 31.12.69	4	2	2	-	8

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R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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L. McCowey, M.A.P.H.I.





## HOUSING

The Council have asked that a special effort be made to deal with unfit dwellings within the District and in order to set up a progressive programme of slum-clearance a housing survey has been started.

Meanwhile, I set out below details of unfit houses dealt with during the year.

### Individual Unfit Houses - Housing Act, 1957

Houses Closed - Section 16 and 17	15
Houses Demolished - Section 17	29
Number of Demolition Orders made	31

### Unfit Houses Made Fit:-

#### Informal action

(i) By Local Authority	NIL
(ii) By Owner	8

#### Formal Action

(i) By Local Authority	NIL
(ii) By Owner	6

### Other Houses In Which Defects Were Remedied

Informal action by Local Authority	1
Formal action - Housing Acts.	NIL
Formal action - Public Health Acts.	NIL



### NEW DWELLINGS ERECTED

A total of 379 houses were erected during the year. Of these, 133 were erected by the Council and 246 by private enterprise.

The following table shows the distribution of newly erected houses throughout the District.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Council</u>
Barton Mills	7	NIL
Brandon	54	15
Cavenham	NIL	NIL
Dalham	2	NIL
Elveden	NIL	NIL
Eriswell	3	NIL
Freckenham	3	NIL
Gazeley	6	NIL
Herringswell	NIL	NIL
Higham	NIL	NIL
Icklingham	2	4
Kentford	9	NIL
Lakenheath	78	10
Mildenhall	63	104
Moulton	8	NIL
Santon Downham	1	NIL
Tuddenham	NIL	NIL
Wangford	NIL	NIL
Worlington	10	NIL





## HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

Until recently all work in connection with Discretionary and standard grants was carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Under new arrangements between departments the Public Health Inspector vets plans and specifications for Discretionary and standard grant applications and inspects the premises to ensure that the required standard of fitness is obtained.

The number of grants paid in 1969 are as follows:-

Discretionary Grants	7
Standard Grants	18

It is hoped that the increased activity in the field of housing within the Public Health Department and the more generous grants now available will cause these numbers to increase during the forthcoming year.

In addition to the above figures 14 Council Houses were modernised throughout the year with the aid of grants.

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## WATER SUPPLY

The major part of the piped water supplies throughout the district is undertaken by the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board. Details of the supplies, which are adequate and wholesome, are set out below:-

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Public Water Mains		Private Supply	
		Inside Dwelling	Standpipe	Inside Dwelling	Pump Outside
Barton Mills	273	265	4	4	-
Brandon	1612	1573	15	21 (3)	3
Cavenham	45	33	-	9 (6)	3(3)
Dalham	81	81	-	-	-
Elveden	137	-	-	136(136)	1(1)
Eriswell	102	87	-	15	-
Freckenham	278	274	-	3	1
Gazeley	185	164	6	15	-
Herringswell	68	61	1	6	-
Higham	76	-	-	76 (76)	-
Icklingham	145	127	4	14	-
Kentford	89	83	6	-	-
Lakenheath	837	815	12	6	4
Mildenhall	2479	2453	10	7	9
Moulton	339	339	-	-	-
Santon Downham	91	19	-	72	-
Tuddenham	123	111	3	9	-
Wangford	11	-	-	11	-
Worlington	163	155	3	5	-
	7134	6654	64	395(221)	21

The figures in brackets indicate the number of dwellings having a chlorinated private water supply.

Of the 395 dwellings having a private water supply inside, 3 of these obtain their water by means of a hand pump.





## EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

### Bacteriological Examination

Regular sampling of drinking water from domestic premises, from both public and private sources has been carried out during the year by the Public Health Department for bacteriological examination. Samples of water from all boreholes providing water for public supplies is undertaken, prior to chlorination; by the Water Board at monthly intervals for a similar examination.

The following table shows the number of samples taken by the Public Health Inspectors and the results obtained.

No. Samples Domestic taps	Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satisfactory	Class 3 Suspicious	Class 4 Unsatisfactory
58	54	4	NIL	NIL

### Chemical Examination (analysis)

A sample of water from each source is submitted for chemical analysis each autumn by the Water Board and the table overleaf shows the results of chemical examinations for the period covered by this report.





Test (parts per million)	Brandon Boreholes		Eriswell Boreholes		Moulton	Tuddenham	Beck Row
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 1	No. 2			
Appearance	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
pH Values	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.2
Chloride	15	14	13	12	27	17	27
Total Hardness	100	100	190	190	355	250	325
Nitrate Nitrogen	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.2	11.0	5.4	6.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	0.01	Absent	Absent	0.01	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Metals:-							
Iron	Absent	Absent	0.04	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Zinc	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Copper	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride	0.16	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.15	0.15
Turbidity	NIL	NIL	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Odour	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Free Carbon Dioxide	0	8	15	15	32	22	35
Oxygen Absorbed	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.40
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Silica	10	9	11	10	11	9	10
Dissolved Solids dried at 100°C.	235	230	240	240	450	310	420



## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The Council continued with their programme of providing modern sewerage and sewage disposal systems within the district and the following progress was made during the year.

### West Row Sewerage Scheme

Construction work on this scheme commenced in August, 1968 and was completed in July, 1969.

### Barton Mills and Worlington Sewerage Schemes

Construction work on schemes for these villages commenced in September, 1968 and was completed in October, 1969.

### Freckenham Village Sewerage Scheme

This scheme received Ministry approval, tenders were obtained and construction works commenced in July, 1969.

### Mildenhall Sewage Works Extension.

The Council have known for some time that, due to population growth and Town Development in Mildenhall, extensions to the existing sewage treatment works would be necessary. A scheme was therefore submitted to the Ministry and after approval etc. construction work commenced in June, 1969.

### Red Lodge and Herringswell Sewerage Schemes

Schemes for both villages were submitted for Ministry approval in January and April, 1969 respectively. Following a Ministry of Housing and Local Government enquiry in September, 1969 approval has been given to invite tenders for both villages after the 1st of January, 1970.

### Cavenham Village Sewerage Scheme

A scheme to serve Cavenham Village was submitted for approval to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in November, 1969.

### Brandon - Extension to sewage works and sewers.

Towards the end of the year the Council gave consideration to the above scheme. This is necessary because of increased population and development in the Brandon area.

### Future Sewerage Schemes

The areas named overleaf remain unsewered, and obviously the absence of a sewerage system in any village must give rise to varying degrees of pollution and more-over restricts the modernisation of a number of houses where full modern amenities are lacking. The Council's policy is to sewer all parishes and the list is arranged in order of priority.





Areas Unsewered

Freckenham (Red Lodge)

Herringswell

Cavenham

Beck Row and Holywell Row

Kentford

Elveden

Eriswell

Higham

Santon Downham.

The village of Wangford and the Fen areas remain unsewered and the Council have been advised by their Engineer and Surveyor that to provide sewerage for these areas is impracticable.

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## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Collection of Refuse

The following areas were provided with a weekly kerbside collection:-

Brandon  
Lakenheath  
Mildenhall (Beck Row-Village only)  
Mildenhall (Town)

During the year the Council approved the introduction of a pilot scheme of refuse collection, using the paper sack system, on the first stage of Brandon's overspill housing estate. Improvements in the collection and disposal of house-hold refuse, in some rural districts, is long overdue and the Council felt that the experience gained from such a scheme would prove helpful.

The following villages were provided with a fortnightly kerbside collection during the year but approval was given to start a weekly kerbside collection in 1970.

Barton Mills.  
Eriswell (Proposed new USAF dwellings only)  
(Anglo American Housing Scheme)  
Freckenham (Red Lodge)  
Worlington.

A fortnightly kerbside collection of refuse was provided in the following villages:

Cavenham	Icklingham
Dalham	Kentford
Elveden	Lakenheath (Sedge Fen)
Freckenham (Village)	Mildenhall (West Row)
Cazeley	Moulton
Herringswell	Santon Downham
Higham	Tuddenham
Wangford	



Refuse Disposal

Crude tipping and burning is the medthod of refuse disposal adopted throughout the district with the exception of Herringswell. In Herringswell crude tipping is carried out butthe practice of burning refuse had to be stopped because of the public health nuisance it caused in the nearby village.

This method of refuse disposal, which is inseparable from nuisance and rat and fly infestations, has nothing to commend it from a public health point of view and its very nature demands constant surveillance to keep rat infestations under control and regular spraying with insecticide is essential to prevent flies breeding.

The disposal of ceptic tank contents gave rise to complaints from time to time, but as the installation of sewerage schemes and modern sewage disposal plants progresses this type of complaint should become less.

The figures for the year ended December, 1969 are as follows:-

Number of tanks emptied	Total number of loads
2,985	3,422



## INSPECTION OF FOOD AND ADMINISTRATION OF FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

### Summary of Food Premises

Bakehouses	3
Butchers	13
Catering Premises	39
Chemists Shops	3
Confectioners	16
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	1
Fried Fish Shops	6
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	4
Grocers and General Dealers	51
Licensed Premises	67
Mobile Food Shops	3
Registered Food Premises	70
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Total	279
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### Registered Food Premises

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	66
Storage of Ice Cream intended for sale	1
Preparation of Sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	3
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Total	70
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## Inspection of Food Premises

One hundred and sixty six visits were made to food premises under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 for purposes of inspection and advice. As a result of the inspections fifty two letters were sent out drawing attention to several infringements in most cases.

The analysis shows regulations six and twenty-three to be the most commonly infringed, indicating a disturbing lack of basic cleanliness.

Analysis of contraventions.

Reg. No.	Subject	Number of Contraventions
5	Food business not to be carried on at insanitary premises	1
6	Cleanliness of equipment	47
8	Food to be protected from risk of contamination	3
9	Personal cleanliness	1
14	Sanitary conveniences	44
15	Water supply to be provided	1
16	Wash-hand basins to be provided	18
17	First-aid materials to be provided	19
18	Accommodation for clothing	1
19	Facilities for washing food and equipment	14
20	Lighting of food rooms	5
21	Ventilation of food rooms	7
23	Cleanliness and repair, etc., of food rooms	187
24	Accumulation of refuse	17
25	Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	1



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Summary of visits carried out by Public Health Inspectors for the year 1969.

Animal Boarding Establishments	8
Bakehouses	7
Butchers Shops	14
Caravan Sites	65
Catering Premises	33
Chemists Shops	3
Clean Air Act	6
Confectioners	12
Dairies	3
Drainage and Sewerage	27
Factories Act	27
Fishmongers	1
Fried Fish Shops	8
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	13
Grocers and General Dealers	56
Housing Acts	1027
Infectious Diseases	3
Knackers Yards	4
Licensed Premises	12
Meat Inspection	3
Mobile Food Shops	4
Miscellaneous visits	109
Noise Abatement Act	22
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	36
Outworkers	NIL
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	31
Public Health Acts	347
Stables and Piggeries	3
Slaughterhouses	6
Water Supply	58





## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

There were 122 premises registered with the authority under the Act at the end of 1969, this being an increase of 2 on the 1968 total.

The types of premises and the numbers of persons employed are shown in the table below.

Type of Premises	No. on Register	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	28	159
Retail Shops	82	243
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	11
Catering Establishments open to Public	10	38
Fuel Storage Depots	1	4
	TOTAL	455
	Males	196
	Females	259

### ACCIDENTS

Two **accidents** were reported during the year. Both were minor in nature and did not require statutory action.

### EXEMPTIONS

There are no premises within the area for which exemption from any requirements of the Act have been granted.



## ADMINISTRATION

Thirty six inspections were made in 1969 and a total of 51 contraventions were observed. The table below shows the variety of infringements noted:-

Section	Subject	Number of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness	2
6	Temperature	7
7	Ventilation	2
8	Lighting	3
9	Sanitary Conveniences	5
10	Washing Facilities	4
13	Sitting Facilities	1
16	Floors, Passages and Stairs	7
24	First Aid Provisions	5
49	Notification of Employment	1
50	Information for Employees	14

## PROSECUTIONS

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings for enforcement of the provisions of the Act during 1969.





# FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Reorganisation of the work of the Public Health Department has been undertaken so as to bring about a more satisfactory cover of factory premises.

## Prescribed Particulars On The Administration Of The Factories Act, 1961

### Part 1 of the Act

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

	Number on Register	Number of:-		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (no power) in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	18	1	NIL	NIL
Factories (with power) not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	103	28	1	NIL
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	44	4	NIL	NIL
TOTALS	166	33	1	NIL

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of prosecutions instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences insufficient S.7.	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL





PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Section 133	Lamp Shades	Wearing Apparel	Eye Shades	Plastic Covers	Bags
(i) Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (i) (c)	8	24	14	1	6
(ii) Number of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	0	0	0	0	0
(iii) Number of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists.	0	0	0	0	0
Section 134					
(i) Number of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	0	0	0	0	0
(ii) Notices served	0	0	0	0	0
(iii) Prosecutions	0	0	0	0	0



## RODENT CONTROL

A rodent control service is operated by the Council, one full time operator being employed.

There is no charge for treatment of private dwellings but a charge of 10s. 0d. per hour is made for business premises and 12s. 6d. per hour in the case of agricultural premises.

Set out below is a table showing the work carried out during the year by the Rodent Operator and the Public Health Inspectors.

	Non Agircultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in District	7833	716
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	849	12
Number infested by:           Rats	477	10
Mice	75	NIL
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	564	64
Number infested by:           Rats	85	46
Mice	12	NIL

During 1969 the sewers of Brandon, Lakenheath, Gazeley and Dalham were examined for rodent activity. Details of the survey are:-

	<u>No. of manholes in system</u>	<u>No. of manholes baited</u>	<u>No. of positive results</u>
Brandon	250	52	NIL
Lakenheath	200	32	NIL
Dalham	34	4	NIL
Gazeley	33	6	NIL





CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

The following summary shows the position during the period covered by this report:-

New site licences granted	5
Site licences renewed	23
Expired site licences not renewed	13
Total number of licenced sites	55
Total number of caravans permitted to occupy licenced sites	431

Thirty of the fifty five licenced sites are for single caravans.

Caravan Sites Act, 1968.

There are a number of itinerant caravan dwellers who frequent the District but they did not cause any serious public health problems during the year. Complaints have been received about these nomadic people but complaints are made because they are there and not for any specific public health reason.

Part Two of the above Act, which provides for the provision of sites by County Councils, Borough Councils and London Borough Councils, came into force while this report was being prepared and the designated authorities are required to give notice to the appropriate Minister by the 30th of September, 1970 describing the number and location of sites proposed to be provided by them and the number of caravans that each will accommodate.



## GENERAL MATTERS OF INSPECTION

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two establishments within the district had their licences renewed at the beginning of the year. Routine inspections carried out during the year showed that some conditions of licence were not being observed and generally both premises were found to be very unsatisfactory. The department pursued the matter to bring about an improvement in the conditions in both premises.

One of the establishments has since been taken over by new management and is now a model of cleanliness and good order. The other is not yet up to standard and further action is being considered.

### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No applications for prior approval relating to new furnaces were received.

Four complaints were received during the year concerning black smoke and smoke smuts arising from the burning of waste materials. The premises concerned were the same on each occasion and the immediate co-operation of management was obtained in abating the nuisance. Smoke emission lasted for very short periods.

### DISINFESTATION

In addition to work done on rodent control and routine treatment of refuse disposal dumps the following infestations were dealt with during the year:-

Ants	1
Bed Bugs	1
Fleas	3
Flies	1
Moles	30
Wasps	48

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

A local dairy asked for the department's assistance in dealing with several complaints they had received of a taste of bitterness in a batch of sterilized milk delivered in the Brandon area in June. Investigations carried out by the department did not reveal any cause for complaint and this was supported by a report on the milk by the Public Analyst. The cause for the complaints remains a mystery.

No other complaints of unsound food were received during the year.





## FOOD POISONING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. The patient, a 71 year old retired person, contracted salmonella food poisoning while on holiday and through liaison with the health authorities for the area in which he had been on holiday the case was followed up by the Council's health department and effective control was therefore maintained.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Five complaints of noise were received during the year, all arising from barking dogs. Four of these were dealt with informally by the department and the remaining one, following advice from your officers was successfully dealt with under the Act by three aggrieved householders through a solicitor, in a magistrates court.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One application for a licence to keep a pet shop was granted by the Council. The applicant sells budgerigars, tame mice and hamsters.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

The owner of the one remaining slaughterhouse in the district found it increasingly difficult to operate his premises as a slaughterhouse and to keep them up to the standard required by the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958. Due to lack of use and maintenance, the buildings and equipment deteriorated and in view of all the circumstances the owner decided to discontinue using it as a slaughterhouse.

The licence has not been renewed and the premises have been removed from the Ministry's list of slaughterhouses.

## KNACKERS YARDS

There is only one knackers yard within the district and throughout the year several visits have been made.

Close co-operation between the owner and the public health department has led to an improvement in the general standard of the yard, although structurally it leaves much to be desired.

At the time of compiling this report indications of a proposed new knackers yard, incorporating modern standards, have been received and the advice and guidance of the department has been requested.





## SCHOOL SWIMMING POOLS

There are seven outdoor swimming pools in the district located at schools in Brandon, Eriswell, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Moulton, Sedge Fen and Tuddenham.

Regular testing of the water is carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the West Suffolk County Council to ensure that adequate standards of purity are maintained.

School staff are instructed in the use of the equipment necessary to maintain the recommended standards.

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